

other functions of the No Child Left Behind law—despite significant research proving that Native children do better in all subjects when taught through the use of Native languages and culture.

Schools have felt pressure from the Bush administration to instead spend resources for Native language and culture on the goals of Bush's No Child Left Behind law. Title VII resources must be focused on Title VII goals—not siphoned off to support other goals of the Bush administration—especially at the expense of Native American children.

Native children have the right to the education they are promised—that means the highest quality education—including instruction in their language.

As a Nation, we must reaffirm our commitment to preserve, to honor, and to teach the living traditions, cultures, and languages of the First Americans who have and continue to contribute to the strength of our Nation as teachers, community leaders, business owners, artists, elected officials, and neighbors—and the brave men and women who have fought in our armed services.

Native Americans have identified the recovery and preservation of their languages as one of their highest priorities. As a country, we have a moral obligation to live up to our commitments to the First Americans.

It is my hope that Congress will do what is right—and recommit our Nation's resources to strengthen Native American languages for all Native people across the entire country.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. TODD RUSSELL PLATTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 28, 2006*

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 178 which occurred on May 22, 2006, regarding H.R. 3858, the Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

#### TRIBUTE TO THE 2006 RETIREES OF THE STERLING HEIGHTS FIRE DEPARTMENT

#### HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 28, 2006*

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, September 29, 2006, the Sterling Heights' Fire Fighters Union will host their Annual Dinner-Dance, honoring their 2006 retirees. This yearly event honors Sterling Heights firefighters for their dedication to their community and recognizes their commendable contributions to the city. I am pleased to be associated with this fine organization and to call many of them my friends.

I rise today to pay tribute to the careers of four retiring firefighters.

Kenneth Hall was appointed as a Sterling Heights firefighter on January 21, 1980. In November of that year, he received his Certificate of Completion for the Extrication and Rescue Training Program. On May 25, 2000, he was presented with the certificate of Spe-

cial U.S. Senate Recognition to commemorate his 20 years of service. In August of 2002 he added to his list of accomplishments by becoming a HazMat Team Member. Ken has been promoted two times in his career: Lieutenant on March 31, 1995, and Captain on September 17, 2001. He retired on January 30 of this year after 26 years of dedicated service.

Tom Lindeman was appointed as a Sterling Heights Firefighter on July 2, 1981. As part of his service, he counseled and taught young aspiring firefighters in the department's Explorer's Program. In 1989 he received a Certificate of Appreciation from Utica Community Schools for his efforts in the community. In 2001 he received an associate's degree in Fire Science. During his career, Tom was promoted four times: FEO on April 20, 1992; Lieutenant on January 4, 1996; Training Instructor on August 22, 1996, and Chief of Training on January 11, 2003. He was honored by his peers, being named Firefighter of the Year twice, in 1999 and in 2004. Tom retired last month on August 19, after 25 years of dedicated service.

Dave Poterek was appointed as a Sterling Heights Firefighter on May 21, 1979 after attending Western Michigan University. On May 4, 1981, he received a Police Department Citizen Citation for resuscitating a drowning victim. In 1984 he earned his Associates Degree in Nursing, and in 2004 he obtained his EMS Instructor Coordinator certificate. During his career he was promoted several times: Firefighter-ALS (Advanced Life Support) on April 18, 1992; Fire Lieutenant-ALS on July 5, 1994; Captain in 1996, and Battalion Chief on October 31, 2003. He retired on June 19 of this year, after 27 years of dedicated service.

William Riddock was appointed to the position of Probationary Firefighter with the Sterling Heights Fire Department on October 12, 1981. In 1989 he received the Meritorious Unit Citation for assistance at a house fire, rescuing a family from their balcony. He was a member of the Uniform Committee and participated in numerous of the department's Open Houses. In addition to receiving numerous Perfect Attendance Awards throughout his career, Captain Riddock was promoted twice: Lieutenant on July 22, 1996, and Captain on January 11, 2003. Captain Riddock is retiring next month on October 19, after 25 years of dedicated service.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing these four heroes, who have dedicated themselves to the community with valor, commitment and honor.

#### TRIBUTE TO MAIN STREET BAPTIST CHURCH

#### HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 28, 2006*

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, today we congratulate the Main Street Baptist Church in Point Pleasant, WV. On October 28, 2006, the Main Street Baptist Church will celebrate its 100th anniversary.

This church has helped change the lives of many in the Point Pleasant area and in the state. This is a wonderful time for the congregants of Main Street Baptist Church to

celebrate with loved ones and take time to reflect on the many accomplishments and improvements this church has made in the community.

I want to thank Main Street Baptist Church for their service to the community of Point Pleasant and all of their contributions to our great state. May your next 100 years be just as fruitful.

#### HONORING THE LUVERNIA FULLER FOUNDATION AND RECOGNIZING MAY 18TH, 2007 AS "ANSWER MY PRAYER" DAY

#### HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 28, 2006*

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Luvernia Fuller Foundation for the invaluable support it provides to cancer patients. In doing so, I join two local governments in the 13th District of Illinois in recognizing the Luvernia Fuller Foundation for its generosity. Both the Village of Romeoville and the City of Joliet in my district have declared May 18, 2007, Luvernia Fuller Foundation "Answer My Prayer" day.

This not-for-profit organization was established on January 20, 2004 by the son of cancer patient, Luvernia Fuller. Unfortunately, like too many people stricken with cancer, Luvernia Fuller lost her battle. Inspired by his mother, Brian Fuller established the Foundation to provide emotional and monetary assistance to cancer patients and their families.

"Answer My Prayer" day was created to raise awareness and support for cancer patients. The Luvernia Fuller Foundation's goal of "Answer My Prayer" day is not only to raise money to help provide necessary medical treatment and medicine for cancer patients, but also to educate the public about cancer and to celebrate the dignity of cancer patients.

As representative of the 13th District of Illinois, I am extremely pleased that such a fine foundation is based in my district and is providing life-saving assistance to the people of Illinois. I wish the Luvernia Fuller Foundation continued success in its mission and hope that we all set aside May 18th as "Answer My Prayer" day to help and remember those who have been or are currently afflicted with cancer.

#### IN MEMORY OF FORT WORTH FIRE CHIEF CHARLES GAINES

#### HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 28, 2006*

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of the most dedicated public servants of District 12 and the Fort Worth community that I represent, Fort Worth Fire Chief Charles Gaines. On September 23, 2006, Fire Chief Gaines died at his home at the age of 49. Through hard work and commitment in his chosen profession, Chief Gaines was known nationally as an outstanding fire chief.

While Chief Gaines' tenure in Fort Worth was a short four years, his impact on the community, on the men and women of the Fort

Worth Fire Department and on his Fort Worth friends was enormous. Chief Gaines undertook with vigor the task of implementing a 4-man company staffing plan for the Fort Worth Fire Department to ensure that citizens enjoyed the best fire protection possible, while also undertaking a review of the Fire Department to abolish inefficient practices.

Chief Gaines was born in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and graduated from Oklahoma City Northwest Classen High School before enlisting in the U.S. Air Force in 1975 where he entered the Air Force fire protection services as a crash rescue firefighter. He was stationed at various Air Force bases and rose to the rank of assistant fire chief when he was honorably discharged in 1980. Chief Gaines joined the Oklahoma City Fire Department and became a firefighter in 1981 where he continued as a frontline firefighter and supervisor until 1985 when he became a fire services instructor. Beginning in 1990, Chief Gaines served the Oklahoma City community in various capacities as deputy chief, including deputy chief for personnel, training and safety operations. When the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building occurred in 1995, Chief Gaines was one of the first rescuers to reach the scene and served as the operations safety officer during the first 36 hours after the bombing, providing critical leadership that ensured the safety of firefighters and others who had rushed to the rescue of the victims of the bombing.

Chief Gaines was named Fort Worth fire chief in 2002 in a nationwide search and had the distinction of being the city's first African American fire chief. His fellow firefighters say his analytical ability, dedication to safety and determination made him "a consummate professional." Nothing signifies his dedication and hard work more than his personal development efforts. While serving as a full time firefighter, Chief Gaines earned a Southern Nazarene University Bachelor of Science degree, an Oklahoma City University Masters of Business Administration degree and graduated from the National Fire Academy's Executive Officers Program.

At the same time, Chief Gaines was fiercely dedicated to his family and friends, always there with a bright smile and wit.

Chief Gaines' outstanding professional abilities have indeed made Fort Worth a better place in which to live and work. It is with humility that I honor Fort Worth Fire Chief Charles Gaines as a great American who used his skills and talents wisely. Chief Gaines will be missed but not forgotten.

TRIBUTE TO BYRON NELSON—  
AMERICAN GOLFER

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 28, 2006*

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, ask 100 people on the street who is the best golfer in history, I bet a majority of them would reply "Tiger Woods." Ask that same question to 100 professional golfers, and their answer would be "Byron Nelson."

Byron Nelson was born February 4, 1912 in Waxahachie, Texas. He did not grow up with

the ambition to ever be a professional golfer; he just enjoyed playing it in his spare time. The onslaught of the Great Depression, and his subsequent unemployment, led Nelson to professionally pursue golf in 1932.

Known to golfers as the game's "Ultimate Gentleman," Nelson impressed audiences and fellow players alike with his good nature, his graceful swing, and his ability to win. In 1937, Nelson won The Masters, his first major tournament win. He would go on to win four more major tournaments over the years: the 1939 U.S. Open, the 1940 and 1945 PGA Championship, and the 1942 Masters. The accomplishment that he is the most well known for, however, did not come until 1945—13 years after he turned professional.

As America was winning World War II, Byron Nelson was winning golf tournaments. In 1945, Nelson did the unimaginable, winning 11 consecutive golf tournaments. By the end of 1945, Nelson had won a record 18 total tournaments—a record that still remains intact today. The closest anyone has come to challenging Nelson's record was Tiger Woods, who impressively won 6 consecutive tournaments in 2001; however, failed to catch the record by five tournaments. His last professional tour ended in 1946, when at the age of 34, he decided to live the simple life of a rancher.

Although Nelson had retired, his love and dedication for the game continued. For years later, he was a frequent ceremonial starter at The Masters tournament. Nelson was also always amazed at how the game of golf was evolving, from the "rising new stars" to the change in club material to the amounts of money involved. In a 1997 interview, Nelson stated, "I did not even dream in my wildest imagination there would be as much money. . . . I only won \$182,000 in my whole life." Mr. Speaker, nowadays winning a professional tournament yields millions of dollars, so one can understand Nelson's amazement at the winnings now.

Byron Nelson was the recipient of the 1974 Bob Jones Award for distinguished sportsmanship in golf. It is considered the highest honor awarded by the U.S. Golf Association. He has also been inducted into the World Golf Hall of Fame, and is the only professional golfer to have a stop on the PGA tour named after him—EDS Bryon Nelson Championship played in Dallas, Texas.

Golf was not the only passion in Nelson's life. He was also a devout Christian, who gave his time, energy, and money to Abilene Christian University (ACU)—my alma mater. Nelson had a long family history with ACU. In his family lineage were the fourth and seventh Presidents of the University. Nelson's brother is currently a professor at ACU and his sister is an alumna.

Nelson was a member of the University's Board of Trustees and National Development Council. In 1984 Nelson and his wife of 50 years, Louise, established the Byron and Louise Nelson Golf Endowment, to raise funds for ACU. A dinner was held in his honor and the results netted enough funding to permanently institute the men's golf program at ACU. Nelson also continued to lend not only his name, but his person, each year to ACU's Byron Nelson Golf Tournament. His dedication and devotion to ACU allowed the men's golf program

to flourish, winning eight Lone Star Conference golf championships and one NCAA Division II championships.

For 94 years, Bryon Nelson was a man among men, always a gentleman, always a leader, always a Christian. On Tuesday, September 26, this great man passed away at his home in Roanoke, Texas. Bryon Nelson is not only mourned throughout the professional golf community, but throughout Abilene Christian University, where he gave so much of himself and asked for nothing in return. So his life will be remembered by all, as a great person and a great golfer.

RECOGNIZING THE DEDICATION OF  
MR. C. LARRY RHODES TO OUR  
TROOPS

HON. JOHN N. HOSTETTLER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 28, 2006*

Mr. HOSTETTLER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the personal dedication of one of my constituents from Southern Indiana, Mr. Larry Rhodes, to our troops in the field, and their families here at home. Mr. Rhodes, a Vietnam Veteran, recognized the need for his community to step in and volunteer their time, energy, and resources to the families of our troops preparing to deploy to Iraq. Rather than wait for an opportunity to do his part, Mr. Rhodes took the initiative and formed the support organization "Operation: Support on the Homefront."

In the Summer of 2005, Mr. Rhodes began holding events for families of soldiers in the National Guards 163rd Field Artillery unit, and the Army Reserves 406th Corps Support Battalion, both of which have units in my congressional district—the 8th District of Indiana.

Mr. Rhodes has organized numerous fund-raising events, including concerts, dinners, silent auctions, and of course a joyous Christmas party for the families, where a huge dinner was served and all of the children received donated gifts. In addition to his fund-raising efforts, Mr. Rhodes has worked with the business community in Evansville and surrounding communities to encourage them to provide discounted products and services to the families of the deployed soldiers.

This August, after months of negotiating with the U.S. government, Mr. Rhodes and his producer Steve Olglesby, were given permission to travel to Iraq to spend time with troops from the 163rd and 406th, conduct interviews, and film a short documentary of their experiences in Iraq. Underscoring the hazardous nature of this trip, the day Mr. Rhodes and Mr. Olglesby left Al Diwaniyah, the base where they were staying came under mortar attack. Luckily, no one was injured.

This dedication to our troops, commitment to our country, and selfless sacrifice deserves the praise and recognition of a grateful community and country. I commend Mr. Larry Rhodes for his personal service to his country and his ongoing efforts to support our men and women in uniform that proudly serve today.